## 4.4 The Scent of Information

February 13–14, 2009 / Ludwig Boltzmann Institute Media.Art.Research. (University of Art and Industrial Design, Linz)



Workshop: The Scent of Information: Lev Manovic

This two-day meeting of experts was dedicated to the discussion and comparison of new approaches to organize, analyze, and visualize large bodies of archival information. Archives like the Ars Electronica archive present themselves as massive collections of heterogeneous and, in some ways, conflicting data organized in many different formats. Traditional database structures and query interfaces are not sufficient to make sense of this information.

At the same time, it becomes more and more important to connect and

contextualize information resources that already exist. For example, the past ten years have seen numerous initiatives for the documentation and preservation of media art, each contributing to knowledge in the field. However, their content is usually fragmentary and employs a different form of knowledge organization. This workshop is also dedicated to current approaches that can help to bridge these islands of information. We compared methods for the exploration, contextualization and disambiguation of information through computational analysis, social approaches, and interaction design. We also discussed frameworks for knowledge architectures that are flexible enough to accommodate heterogeneous and often ambiguous information. We brought together international experts who work in relevant areas, such as machine learning, visual analytics, knowledge technologies, and interface design.

**Concept:** Dietmar Offenhuber

Moderators: Dietmar Offenhuber, Sandor Herramhof, and Evelyn Münster

## **Panels and Speakers:**

Knowledge Discovery: Strategies for Knowledge Discovery through Content Analysis, Statistics, or Social Context

Lev Manovich, Silvia Miksch, and Moritz Stefaner

Structuring Information: Strategies for Structuring Knowledge Sabrina Bresciani, Martin J. Eppler, Georg Güntner, and Boris Müller

Keynote Lecture

CULTURAL ANALYTICS: Visualizing Cultural Patterns, Lev Manovich

Knowledge Interfaces: Interfaces and Access Methods for Hybrid Archives Gerhard M. Buurman, Miguel Cardoso, Andres Ortiz, and Wolfgang Strauss